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FINANCING OF THE UNITED NATIONS PEACE-KEEPING FORCES IN THE MIDDLE EAST: UNITED NATIONS INTERIM FORCE IN LEBANON

Report of the Fifth Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Jorge OSELLA (Argentina)

I. INTRODUCTION

1. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 18 September 1992, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its forty-seventh session the item entitled:

"Financing of the United Nations peace-keeping forces in the Middle East:

(a) United Nations Disengagement Observer Force;

(b) United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon"

and to allocate it to the Fifth Committee.

2. The Fifth Committee considered sub-item (b) of agenda item 115 at its 46th and 50th meetings, on 16 and 19 December 1992. It had before it the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (A/47/740) and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions (A/47/782).

II. CONSIDERATION OF DRAFT RESOLUTION A/C.5/47/L.13

3. At the 50th meeting, on 19 December, the representative of Spain introduced draft resolution A/C.5/47/L.13.

4. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.5/47/L.13 without a vote (see para. 6).

5. Statements and observations made in the course of the Committee's consideration of this sub-item are reflected in the relevant summary records (A/C.5/47/SR.46 and 50).

III. RECOMMENDATION OF THE FIFTH COMMITTEE

6. The Fifth Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Financing of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on the financing of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon 1/ and the related report of the Advisory Committee on Administrative and Budgetary Questions, 2/

Bearing in mind Security Council resolution 425 (1978) of 19 March 1978, by which the Council established the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon, and the subsequent resolutions by which the Council extended the mandate of the Force, the latest of which was Council resolution 768 (1992) of 30 July 1992,

Recalling its resolution S-8/2 of 21 April 1978 on the financing of the Force and its subsequent resolutions thereon, the latest of which was resolution 46/194 of 20 December 1991,

Reaffirming its previous decisions regarding the fact that, in order to meet the expenditures caused by the Force, a different procedure is required from the one applied to meet expenditures of the regular budget of the United Nations,

Taking into account the fact that the economically more developed countries are in a position to make relatively larger contributions and that the economically less developed countries have a relatively limited capacity to contribute towards such operations involving heavy expenditures,

Bearing in mind the special responsibilities of the States permanent members of the Security Council, as indicated in General Assembly resolution 1874 (S-IV) of 27 June 1963, in the financing of such operations,

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1/ A/47/740.

2/ A/47/782.

Having regard to the financial position of the Special Account for the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon, as set forth in the report of the Secretary-General, and referring to paragraph 26 of the report of the Advisory Committee,

Recalling its resolution 34/9 E of 17 December 1979 and the subsequent resolutions in which it decided that the provisions of regulations 5.2 (b), 5.2 (d), 4.3 and 4.4 of the Financial Regulations of the United Nations should be suspended, the latest of which was resolution 46/194,

Mindful of the fact that it is essential to provide the Force with the necessary financial resources to enable it to fulfil its responsibilities under the relevant resolutions of the Security Council,

Noting with appreciation that voluntary contributions have been made to the Force by certain Governments,

Concerned that the Secretary-General continues to face difficulties in meeting the obligations of the Force on a current basis, including reimbursement to current and former troop-contributing States, resulting from the withholding of contributions by certain Member States,

Concerned also that the surplus balances in the Special Account for the Force have, in effect, been drawn upon to the full extent to supplement the income received from contributions for meeting expenses of the Force,

Concerned further that the implementation of the provisions of regulations 5.2 (b), 5.2 (d), 4.3 and 4.4 of the Financial Regulations of the United Nations would aggravate the already difficult financial situation of the Force,

1. Decides to appropriate to the Special Account referred to in section I, paragraph 1, of General Assembly resolution S-8/2 the amount of 148,708,000 United States dollars gross (145,677,000 dollars net) authorized and apportioned by the Assembly in paragraphs 2 and 3 of its resolution 46/194 for the operation of the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon from 1 February 1992 to 31 January 1993, inclusive;

2. Authorizes the Secretary-General to enter into commitments for the operation of the Force at a rate not to exceed 12,190,000 dollars gross (11,931,500 dollars net) per month for the period beginning 1 February 1993, should the Security Council decide to continue the Force beyond the period of six months authorized under its resolution 768 (1992);

3. Decides, as an ad hoc arrangement, to apportion the amounts referred to in paragraph 2 above among Member States in accordance with the composition of groups set out in paragraphs 3 and 4 of General Assembly resolution 43/232 of 1 March 1989, as adjusted by Assembly resolutions 44/192 B of 21 December 1989, 45/269 of 27 August 1991 and 46/198 of 20 December 1991, and

taking into account the scale of assessments for the years 1992, 1993 and 1994; 3/

4. Decides also to consider the contributions of Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Republic of Moldova, San Marino, Slovenia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan to the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon in accordance with the rates of assessment to be adopted by the Assembly for these Member States at its forty-seventh session;

5. Invites the new Member States listed in paragraph 4 above to make advance payments against their assessed contributions, to be determined;

6. Decides that the provisions of regulations 5.2 (b), 5.2 (d), 4.3 and 4.4 of the Financial Regulations of the United Nations shall be suspended in respect of the amount of 6,851,976 dollars, which otherwise would have to be surrendered pursuant to those provisions, this amount to be entered in the account referred to in the operative part of General Assembly resolution 34/9 E of 17 December 1979 and held in suspense until a further decision is taken by the Assembly;

7. Requests the Secretary-General to take all necessary measures to ensure that the Force is administered with a maximum of efficiency and economy;

8. Renews its invitation to Member States and other interested parties to make voluntary contributions to the Force both in cash and in the form of services and supplies acceptable to the Secretary-General, to be administered, as appropriate, in accordance with the procedure established by the General Assembly in its resolutions 43/230 of 21 December 1988, 44/192 A of 21 December 1989 and 45/258 of 3 May 1991, and also to make voluntary contributions in cash to the Suspense Account established in accordance with General Assembly resolution 34/9 D of 17 December 1979;

9. Decides to include in the provisional agenda of its forty-eighth session the item entitled "Financing of the United Nations peace-keeping forces in the Middle East: United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon".

3/ See resolution 46/221 A.